



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Education
& Early Development**

DIVISION OF TEACHING & LEARNING SUPPORT
Assessment and Accountability

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February 23, 2015

Dear Superintendent,

The opening of the test window for the Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) assessment is March 30, 2015, just 5 weeks away. Please share the following important information with all principals in your district. This information is available on the department website at <http://education.alaska.gov/akassessments/> on the purple tab for Alaska Measures of Progress.

Principal Kits for AMP Implementation are now available.

EED has a resource for principals to aid in the successful implementation of the AMP assessment. The Principal Kits feature a checklist of suggested tasks and resources aligned to each task. Principals can choose from scripted presentations and short videos to share with staff, documents that summarize key information about AMP, and resources for teachers to use.

All students must take the Technology Practice Test before AMP.

All students must have opportunities to learn about the new test format and to practice using the tools that are part of AMP. The Technology Practice Test has 12-17 questions and includes each kind of technology-enhanced item that a student might see. Students can practice using the Universal Tools, such as the highlighter or the striker tool. This practice, with teacher guidance, is necessary so that students are able to use these tools to their advantage during testing. EED has developed resources for teachers that explain the Technology Practice Test and offer suggestions for how to introduce it to students.

Screen shots or photos of AMP assessments are a test security violation and are not allowed.

All district staff should be made aware that no photos or screen shots of any test items or secure parts of the AMP assessment system are allowed for any reason. All staff, including technology staff who are in the practice of taking screen shots as part of a problem resolution protocol, must be informed that taking screen shots of the secure assessment is a test security violation. All test items, including on the Technology Practice Tests, the Testlets, and the summative tests, is proprietary. Test security violations may result in an investigation by the Professional Teaching Practices Commission.

Thank you for the work that has happened in your district to make this first administration of AMP as successful as possible. Please contact Elizabeth Davis, Assessment Administrator, with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret MacKinnon".

Margaret MacKinnon
Director of Assessment & Accountability

cc: Mike Hanley, Commissioner